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Re-immunization of Dr. Vitale's Patients

Recently the Nova Scotia College of Physicians & Surgeons suspended the license of Dr. William Vitale, a pediatrician in Halifax, for his practice of improperly mixing vaccines. As a result all patients who received two, four, six, twelve and 18-month vaccinations from Dr. Vitale between 1992-1994 or 2003-2013 may need to be re-immunized to ensure proper protection against vaccine preventable disease.

The following vaccines can be re-administered to former patients of Dr. William Vitale, as per the NS Public Health directions:

- Meningococcal C (Menjuncate)
- Pneumococcal conjugate (Prevnar)
- Varicella
- MMR
- PENTA (DTaP-IPV-Hib)
- MMRV (Priorix-Tetra)
- Adacel-Polio (Tdap-IPV)
- Boostrix
- Td (tetanus-diphtheria)
- IPV (Polio)

Physicians performing these re-immunizations are instructed to submit each immunization claim as EC with the following text included: "Re-immunization for patient of Dr. Vitale". Please indicate which immunization was provided in the claim text, and submit the service with diagnostic code VT069. Each vaccine must be billed as a separate EC claim.

As an exception to Preamble rule 7.2.3 (j), physicians shall also be permitted to bill a visit fee when the visit was made solely for one of the above re-immunizations. Please submit these visits with the applicable health service code and include diagnostic code VT069.

****Note that all other visit and immunization rules still apply.**